IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Christopher Clevon Feaster, #20170675,	)	C/A No.: 0:18-951-JMC-SVH
	)	
	)	
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	
	)	
vs.	)	ORDER
	)	
Sgt. Rickey Prevell Sanders; Sheriff Alex Underwood; and Lt. Fourney,	)	
	)	
	)	
	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	
	)	

Christopher Clevon Feaster, proceeding pro se and in forma pauperis, brought this action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983, alleging a violation of his constitutional rights. This matter is before the court on Plaintiff's motion for appointment of counsel. [ECF No. 11].
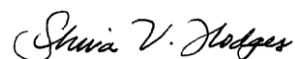
There is no right to appointed counsel in § 1983 cases. *Cf. Hardwick v. Ault*, 517 F.2d 295, 298 (5th Cir. 1975). While the court is granted the power to exercise its discretion to appoint counsel for an indigent in a civil action, 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(1); *Smith v. Blackledge*, 451 F.2d 1201 (4th Cir. 1971), such appointment "should be allowed only in exceptional cases." *Cook v. Bounds*, 518 F.2d 779, 780 (4th Cir. 1975). Plaintiff in his motion has not shown that any exceptional circumstances exist in this case. Rather, he simply states

that he is unable to afford counsel and that his detention will limit his ability to litigate this case.

After a review of the file, this court has determined that there are no exceptional or unusual circumstances presented that would justify the appointment of counsel, nor would Plaintiff be denied due process if an attorney were not appointed. *Whisenant v. Yuam*, 739 F.2d 160 (4th Cir. 1984). The court notes that Plaintiff has competently represented himself thus far. In most civil rights cases, the issues are not complex, and whenever such a case brought by an uncounseled litigant goes to trial, the court outlines proper procedure so the uncounseled litigant will not be deprived of a fair opportunity to present his case. Accordingly, Plaintiff's request for a discretionary appointment of counsel under 28 U.S.C. §1915(e)(1) is denied.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Shiva V. Hodges

May 17, 2018
Columbia, South Carolina

Shiva V. Hodges
United States Magistrate Judge